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**United States Patent** [19]  
**Platt****[11] Patent Number: 5,891,861**  
**[45] Date of Patent: \*Apr. 6, 1999****[54] COMPOSITION AND METHOD FOR  
TREATING FUNGAL DISEASE IN ANIMALS****[76] Inventor: David Platt**, One Kendall Sq. Bldg.  
300, Cambridge, Mass. 02139-9645**[\*] Notice:** This patent issued on a continued prosecution application filed under 37 CFR 1.53(d), and is subject to the twenty year patent term provisions of 35 U.S.C. 154(a)(2).**[21] Appl. No.: 730,367****[22] Filed: Oct. 15, 1996****[51] Int. Cl.<sup>6</sup> ..... A61K 31/73; A61K 31/735****[52] U.S. Cl. .... 514/55; 514/54; 514/61;  
514/62****[58] Field of Search ..... 514/54, 55, 61,  
514/62; 536/29.1****[56] References Cited****U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

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An oligomer comprised of repeat units of beta glucosamine exhibits broad antifungal activity. The oligomer preferably has a molecular weight in the range of 4,000-18,000 dalton, and may be partially acetylated. These materials are highly effective against a variety of fungi including various species of *Candida*.

**10 Claims, 2 Drawing Sheets**